

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

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FEBRUARY 24, 1845.

Submitted, and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. BATES made the following

REPORT:

*The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of the heirs of Martha Hough, report:*

The heirs of Martha Hough, who was the widow of Doctor Walter Hough, set forth, in their petition, that Doctor Hough was a surgeon in the army of the Revolution, and that his widow was entitled to a pension of \$600 a year; and that she received but \$480, as if he had been only surgeon's mate. They claim the difference.

Mrs. Hough was entitled to no pension but upon proof, and from the completion of the proof. According to the proof made, the Commissioner graduated her pension, which she received during her life. Had she made proof that her husband was of a higher grade than surgeon's mate, her pension would have been increased, but only for the time then to come. In favor of heirs at law, the committee will not set aside the Commissioner's decision upon the evidence, unless in a case of the most obvious error. Such was not this case: Wherefore,

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the petition ought not to be granted.

